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(c) During the last five years capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 77,940 has been incurred on the remodelling of channels, and additional expenditure from revenue on re-piping, the details of which are not available.

Local Self-Government.

Construction of General Hospital at Mangalore.

44 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) when the construction of the new General Hospital in Mangalore is likely to commence; and

(ii) whether the Government will consider the advisability of erecting a separate hospital for women and children at Mangalore and providing the necessary funds therefor in the next Budget?

A.—(i) The Government are not in a position to state definitely when work on the new combined hospital at Mangalore is likely to be commenced. A comprehensive programme of new works required in the medical department has been prepared and the works have, after careful consideration, been arranged in the order of urgency under four different classes:—

(1) Very emergent.

(2) Emergent.

(3) Ordinary.

(4) Desirable, but which can be delayed.

The Mangalore hospital is included in class (3) Ordinary. In view of the present financial stringency, the Government are not in a position to provide money for any works included in classes (3) and (4).

(ii) On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the Government have decided that the new hospital to be constructed at Mangalore should be a combined institution the female half of which will be separated from the male half by a wall and be in charge of a lady-doctor. The Government do not consider it necessary to erect a separate hospital for women and children.

Filling up of the Tanjore District Board Presidentship.

45 *Q.*—Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Presidentship of the District Board of Tanjore that fell vacant in June last remains unfilled by nomination or election, while those of Chittoor, Godavari, Coimbatore and Chingleput where vacancies arose either contemporaneously or subsequently have been promptly filled up;

(b) whether it is intended to fill up the Presidentship of the Tanjore District Board shortly; and

(c) whether in the matter of filling up these vacancies any principle or policy is involved?

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A.—(*a*) Four of the eight taluk boards in the Tanjore district were reconstituted on an elective basis with effect from 15th August 1923 and the election of members from all the taluk boards took some time after that date.

(*b*) The Government have decided to authorize the members of the Tanjore District Board to elect their President. The requisite notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 8th January 1924 ; and

(*c*) the answer is in the affirmative.

NON-BRAHMANS.

The Nellore Non-Brahman Conference.

46 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether they have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the First Nellore District Non-Brahman Conference ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that one of the resolutions passed in that Conference was to the effect that the constructive programme of the Congress should be given effect to ; and

(*c*) whether the Government has any intention of giving effect to any extent whatever to the abovementioned resolution ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have not received a copy of the resolutions referred to.

(*b*) & (*c*) The questions do not arise.

REVENUE DIVISIONS.

Re-adjustment of revenue divisions and taluks in the Nellore district.

47 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table the proposals submitted by the Collector of Nellore for the re-adjustment of the revenue divisions and taluks in the Nellore district and the orders passed thereon ?

A.—The proposals made by the Collector of Nellore are under the consideration of Government. When they have considered the proposals, any changes contemplated will be published in the District Gazette for public criticism. The Government do not therefore consider it necessary to lay on the table the proposals made by the Collector.

REVENUE ESTABLISHMENT.

Abolition of four Deputy Tahsildars in the Coimbatore district.

48 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have authorized the Collector of Coimbatore (1) to publish their intention to abolish four Deputy Tahsildars' offices in the Coimbatore district and (2) to call for objections regarding the same ;